

Wing Tips

108th Air Refueling Wing
New Jersey Air National Guard
April 2003 Volume 3 Issue 4



Scenes from the deployment



Photos by Maj. Denise Waggoner and the 108th Visual Information Section.

Governor, TAG visit McGuire



On March 4, Governor James E. McGreevey and The Adjutant General, Brigadier General Glenn K. Rieth, visited the New Jersey National Guard soldiers and airmen at McGuire Air Force Base.

The governor visited with the soldiers of the 5-117th Cavalry assigned to the 305th Security Forces. McGreevey also visited with members of the 108th Security Forces Squadron and with members of the 108th Logistics Group.

"As Governor, I have no greater responsibility than to provide for the safety and security of our families and communities," McGreevey told the Guard members. "On behalf of citizens throughout New Jersey, I would like to express my gratitude for your commitment to the country and the distinction that you bring to the state."

McGreevey recently signed an Executive Order 50 ensuring that New Jersey state employees called to active duty in response to the war on terrorism, the conflict in Iraq or the heightened tensions with North Korea will have full seniority and benefits when they return to their jobs. To see the entire executive order, go to <http://www.state.nj.us/infobank/circular/eom50.htm>.

Orientation Flights Suspended

All civilian employer (ESGR), civic leader, spouse, and unit member incentive flights have been suspended until further notice due to mission requirements. Check *Wing Tips* regularly for updates.



Congratulations to Senior Airman Floyd Henry, MPF; Senior Airman Rafael Morales, SFS; Staff Sgt. James Dryer, MXS; Staff Sgt. Dave Martin, 227th SOF; Staff Sgt. Rebecca Scaramuzzo, 150 ARS; and Tech. Sgt. Richard Saccone, AGS for receiving the New Jersey Air National Guard Commander's Coin on March 18.

Guard, Reserve joint medical building groundbreaking

by Maj. Denise Waggoner
108th ARW Public Affairs Office

Freezing rain, icy roads, and frigid temperatures did not deter the men and women of McGuire's Guard and Reserve wings as they broke ground on the long-awaited Joint Medical Training Facility.

After a six-year effort to get federal funding for the project, members of the 108th Air Refueling Wing of the Air National Guard, the 514th Air Mobility Wing of the Air Force Reserves, the project contractor and Team McGuire gathered at the 305th Medical Group Ambulatory Health Care Center on Thursday, March 6, to usher in a new era of jointness in the military medical arena.

The 15,000-square-foot, \$4.9 million facility will house administrative and dental offices for the Guard and Reserve, and will be connected to the active duty Ambulatory Health Care Center via a covered walkway. It will be the first time Guard, Reserve and

Governor signs order expanding Guard benefits

On April 1, Gov. James E. McGreevey revealed a number of enhanced benefits for New Jersey National Guard members who are on active duty as part of Operation Liberty Shield.

The Governor stated that the state will raise the pay from \$50-60 per day to a minimum of \$100 per day for Guard members on state active duty. The state will also provide health benefits coverage to these same Guard members and their immediate family members.

He also signed Executive Order 54 implementing additional benefits for National Guard members. The Executive Order can be found at http://www.state.nj.us/cgi-bin/governor/njnewsline/view_article.pl?id=1116.



active duty units will share a state-of-the-art medical complex.

This facility is a far cry from the 1950s building nicknamed "the mole hole," the 108th MDS currently calls home.

As retired colonel, Dr. Aldo Baldi, former 108th Medical Squadron Commander and the driving force behind the joint facility, grasped his shovel, he said, "We should do more things together. When the shooting starts, that's how we do it, together." (Dr. Baldi is pictured holding shovel, far right)

Odds and Ends

What's happening

April

April 16 – Passover begins at sunset
April 20 – Easter

May

May 11 – Mother's Day
May 12-16 – National Guard Week

May 26 – Memorial Day holiday

June

June 14 – Flag Day
June 15 – Father's Day

June 21 – Bring-A-Buddy Day
June 21 – Summer begins

Write to your buddies

If you wish to send mail to your friends in the wing who are deployed to the North Atlantic, here is the address:

Rank/Name
126 ARW (designate LG or OPS, etc.)
PSC 76 (Deployed)
APO AE 09720

Thanks from the North Atlantic

A special thanks from the men and women of the 108th ARW who are deployed to the North Atlantic. Family Readiness sent some cookies and videos over to them on a recent flight.

Job Fair at Fort Dix

The Fort Dix/McGuire Air Force Base Job Fair 2003 will be held at Club Dix on April 16. More than 50 local and national companies will be there. Bring plenty of copies of your resume and dress appropriately. Club Dix is located at 6th Street and Alabama Avenue, Fort Dix. For more information, call Rod Martell, 609-562-2186 or e-mail at porfirio.Rodriguez-martell@dix.army.mil.

Wing Tips deadlines

The deadline for May *Wing Tips* is May 2. Articles/photos should be emailed to: pa.108arw@njmcgu.af.mil.

When submitting digital photos, please ensure they are a minimum of 400 dpi. All articles must be in Word format.

Deadline for June *Wing Tips* is June 5, July *Wing Tips* is July 8 and August *Wing Tips* is Aug. 5.

Flag retirement ceremony

If you have an American flag that has become unserviceable, the Brig. Gen. William C. Doyle Veterans Memorial Cemetery is offering a flag retirement ceremony. Flags that are brought or mailed to the administrative building at the cemetery by May 31 will be burned at a local crematory and the ashes will be buried in a ceremony at the cemetery on Flag Day, June 14. Flags may be mailed to 350 Provinceline Road, Wrightstown, NJ 08562. This program will be on-going and flags received after May 31 will be retired at the next Flag Day ceremony.

Substitute teacher needed

The NJNG ChalleNGe Youth program needs a substitute teacher for the next 45 days. It pays \$18.96 per hour. If interested, contact Col. Ken Prossick at 609-562-0571.

MPA days, lodging payment

All 108th ARW members performing active duty on MPA days are responsible for paying their lodging costs using the government credit card. Members should file a travel voucher attaching all hotel receipts and forward it to 108th Finance for reimbursement. Members should not come to Services for a lodging card, but must make their own reservations by calling 609-754-2954/3336/3337. Call Master Sgt. Toni Caceres, 609-754-2320 if you have questions.

Safety Training cancelled

Supervisors Safety Training, originally scheduled for April 13, has been cancelled.

Test taking class available

A Test Taking Skills Class is held every Wednesday prior to each UTA at 1:30 p.m., Bldg. 3306, Services Classroom. Contact Senior Master Sgt. Rocky Ryan at 609-754-8194 to reserve a slot.

Condolences

We regret the passing in early March of Willie Thomas, who retired from the 108th Logistics Squadron, Vehicle Operations Section in July 2001.

Wing Vacancies

Here are the vacancies throughout the wing and the number of openings available.

Operations Group

Medical Tech – 2
Admin Asst – 1
Flight Records – 1
Boom Operator – 2
(1) full time
Airfield Manager – 1
Intelligence Tech – 1

Officers

Pilot – 4

Logistics Group

Crew Chief – 33
Fuels Tech – 4
Supply Mgmt – 5
Vehicle Maint Tech – 5
Contracting Spec – 3
MOCC Controller – 4
Engine Mgmt Tech – 3
Plans & Programs Tech – 1

Propulsion Tech – 1
Aircraft Ground Equip Spec – 12
Machinist/Welder – 4
Sheet Metal Tech – 11
Guidance & Control Tech – 14
Comm/Nav Tech – 4
Fuel Systems Tech – 7
Hydraulic Tech – 7

Officers

Maint officer – 1

Support Group

Ground Comm Radio Spec – 1
Personnel Spec – 3
Security Forces Spec – 15
Power Production Tech – 2
Liquid Fuels Tech – 2
Environmental (Entomologist) – 1
Readiness Tech – 1
Weather Forecaster/Observer – 4

Officers

Weather Forecaster – 1

Medical Squadron

Public Health Tech – 1
Medical Supply Tech – 2
Bio-Med Equip Repair Tech – 1
Bioenvironmental Tech – 1
Dietary Tech – 1
Cardio Lab Tech – 1
Medical Tech – 1
Lab Tech – 1
Optometry Tech – 1
Dental Tech – 1

Officers

Flight Surgeon – 2
Aero-Med Spec – 1
Public Health – 1
Bio-Med Lab – 1
Pharmacist – 1
Optometrist – 1
Dentist – 1

Wing Staff

Safety Craftsman – 1

Wing-wide training hours available UTA Sundays

As of Jan. 1 all units will be afforded the opportunity to have the three hour timeframe from 1-4 p.m. every Sunday of the UTAs to conduct In-House Training requirements.

Please have members check with their Unit Deployment Manager, Ancillary Training Monitor, Supervisors and/or Commanders for scheduled training location and instructors for their sections. CCTV schedule of broadcasts are available in the UTA Bulletin. All broadcasts are on Channel 8.

Wing Tips on 3 Web sites

Wing Tips is now accessible to retirees, unit members and the public on two different Web sites.

It will be placed on the following public Web sites – <http://groups.yahoo.com/group/mcguireairguardians> and <http://www.108arw.ang.af.mil>.

Unit members will also find it on the members-only Web site at <https://108mbr.ang.af.mil>.

Printed color copies will be distributed to buildings 3305, 3306, 3324, 3333, 3369, 3390 and 1818.

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The support we need

Chaplain (Maj.) Tom Klaasen

Support was one of the key words at our Family Readiness meeting last month. During this time of national crisis, we all need all the support we can muster! One of the touching stories we heard was from Senior Master Sgt. Scott Brown. He thanked the volunteers who had come in to forward phone calls from Oman in support of our wing families. From across the room, it seemed he got a little teary-eyed as he told us how much the phone calls had meant to him and to all of the wing members who had been deployed.

Support comes in many forms. As I recall the volunteers at our Family Readiness meeting, I think fondly of our volunteers who faithfully bring goodies to our mobility lines. It's appreciated greatly! Many volunteers come in to create a festive atmosphere as we welcome our people back home.

Support can also be turned around to describe how our deployed military members make sacrifices for our country, during times of peace and war. Our Security Forces, for example, have made extreme sacrifices in defense of our nation's welfare. Many of our wing's members have deployed repeatedly in support of a wide variety of military calls to duty.

Support also has a religious base. We thank God for supporting us during our times of deepest trial. Here's a prayer that I believe can be used by people of any faith group during this time of crisis:

*All powerful and ever-living God,
Guard our places of worship, our homes, our schools,
our hospitals, our factories, and all the places where we gather.
Deliver us from harm and peril whether we're at home or overseas.
Protect our land and its peoples from enemies within and without.
Grant an early peace with victory founded upon justice.
Instill in the hearts and minds of men and women everywhere
a firm purpose to live forever in peace and good will toward all. Amen.*

How to help Armed Forces overseas

Below are Web sites for several organizations that are sponsoring programs for members of the Armed Forces overseas. While it would be inappropriate for the Department of Defense to endorse any specifically, servicemembers do value and appreciate such expressions of support:

Donate a calling card to help keep servicemembers in touch with their families at Operation Uplink at <http://www.operationuplink.org/> or, to donate them directly to the 108th Air Refueling Wing Family Readiness Center, call Tiffany Colby at 609-754-4479.

Send a greeting via e-mail through Operation Dear Abby at <http://anyservicemember.navy.mil/> or www.OperationDearAbby.net

Sign a virtual thank you card at the Defend America Web site at <http://www.defendamerica.mil/nmam.html>

Make a donation to one of the military relief societies: <http://www.aerhq.org/links.htm> Army Emergency Relief at <http://www.aerhq.org/>, Navy/Marine Relief Society at <http://www.nmcrrs.org/>, Air Force Aid Society at <http://www.afas.org/> or the Coast Guard Mutual Assistance at <http://www.cgmahq.org/>

Donate to "Operation USO Care Package" at <http://www.usometrodc.org/care.html>

Support the American Red Cross Armed Forces Emergency Services at <http://www.redcross.org/services/afes/>

Volunteer at a VA Hospital: <http://www.va.gov/vetsday/> to honor veterans who bore the lamp of freedom in past conflicts.

Reach out to military families in your community, especially those with a loved one overseas.

Please do not flood the military mail system with letters, cards, and gifts. Due to security concerns and transportation constraints, the Department cannot accept items to be mailed to "Any Servicemember."

Enlisted Council elections in April

By Staff Sgt. Matthew Johnson

The Enlisted council will be holding elections for new Enlisted Council Board members on Saturday, April 12. The elections will be held in the Wing Conference Room in building 3305 at 1 p.m. Elections will be made for the following council positions, Chairman, Vice Chairman, Secretary, and Treasurer. This is your opportunity to have a positive effect on the morale and welfare of the E-5 and below population throughout the wing.

The Enlisted Council is the collective voice of all the Junior Enlisted folks of the 108th ARW, E-1 thru E-5. The council meets on Saturday of each UTA to discuss issues that are affecting the Junior Enlisted populace and the unit as a whole. They will come up with ways to raise money for the council, come up with new ways to participate throughout the wing and represent the Junior Enlisted force in a positive and respectful manner. The council will recommend solutions to the wing leadership to resolve the issues discussed in the monthly meetings. The council has been empowered by the wing commander to resolve issues brought to the councils attention.

We are also looking for representatives from each group and squadron on base. Please ensure that you have full support from your commander and supervisor before being considered for a position.

Any questions pertaining to the election process, or the Enlisted Council in general, please contact me anytime at 609-754-4141.

Remember this is our "collective voice!"

Extended hours at Family Readiness Center

The Family Readiness Center is offering extended hours of operation:

Monday-Friday: 7:00 a.m. - 11:00 p.m.
Saturday-Sunday: 8:00 a.m. - 4:30 p.m.

Your right to protest

by Lt Col Edward N. Ramras
Staff Judge Advocate

As a member of the New Jersey Air National Guard, you swore an oath to preserve, protect, and defend the Constitutions of the United States and the State of New Jersey. That doesn't mean that you've lost the ability to exercise the rights that those Constitutions guarantee. If you feel strongly about an issue, you still have the right, with a few minor restrictions, to express that view.

Don't protest while in uniform. It gives the impression that your view is the official view of the U.S. Air Force and the N.J. Air National Guard. If you are interviewed by a member of the press and you mention your membership in the Guard, make sure you also state that the opinions you're sharing are NOT those of the ANG or U.S. Air Force. You can't advocate points of view that are racist or that seek to overthrow the Government through illegal means.

If you participate in a demonstration that will use civil disobedience to get its point across and might get you arrested, realize that an arrest and conviction, even if for a non-violent act, may result in loss of your security clearance and discharge

from the ANG.

You have the right to communicate with your elected representative and let them know how you feel and how you would like them to vote. You can write letters to the editors of newspapers and magazines espousing your position. Just be careful not to violate Article 88 of the Uniform Code of Military Justice, which prohibits the use of "contemptuous words" against the President, Vice-President, the Secretary of Defense, the Governor, or the members of Congress or the State legislature. For example, you can express your disagreement about an official's tax policy, but you can't call him a liar or a thief.

Remember, however, that some of these rights end at the base gate. The military of the United States is politically neutral, and while on base and/or on duty, we (the NJANG) can't be seen by the public as endorsing a particular candidate or political point of view. As such, the Base Commander can ban demonstrations, prohibit offensive slogans on clothing or automobiles, or stop similarly disruptive actions.

If you have any questions about your rights, you can call the Legal Office at 609-754-3870.

Child support assistance for activated Guard members

The Defense Finance and Accounting Service's directorate of garnishment operations is working with the Federal Office of Child Support to address issues relating to activated Guard members/Reservists and the payment of child support.

Upon activation, the Guard member/Reservist may experience a reduction in the amount of income he or she makes. If the member does not ask for a review and modification of the child support obligation from the child support agency, the member can incur a large child support arrearage while serving in the reserve components.

Officials have developed guidelines for Guard members/Reservists and ask that they contact their state child support agency

if their income level has changed or will change. They may be eligible for the agency to review and adjust the amount of the support order.

A Guard member/Reservist can also speak to their current employer to notify the state agency of their deployment and to provide all needed information.

If a member has a child support order that includes health care coverage for his or her child, the child is eligible for the military health coverage TriCare.

For additional information the following can be used for assistance: www.acf.hhs.gov/programs/cse/extinf.htm#exta or <https://www.jagnet.army.mil/Legal>.

Bring a buddy to work

By Master Sgt. Frank Beltran-Bell
108th ARW Retention Office Manager

The 108th Air Refueling Wing will hold its second annual "Bring a Buddy Day" on June 21. This event is designed to showcase the 108th ARW as the employer of choice to potential recruits.

Each unit member is asked to bring at least one buddy, who might be interested in joining the 108th ARW. Recruiters and Unit Career Advisors will be available to talk about educational benefits and incentives offered by the New Jersey Air National Guard.

"Bring a Buddy Day" kicks off at 9 a.m. in the auditorium of building 3390 with a presentation of colors and a welcome from the wing commander. Work centers will be available for touring at designated times.

Contact Senior Master Sgt. Rocky Ryan at 609-754-8194 for more information.

New traffic patterns at BX, Commissary

by Chief Master Sgt. Denis Dzurinko

The traffic patterns at the Base Exchange and Commissary have recently changed. Patrons can no longer leave the BX/Commissary using the middle road to get to Broidy Road. To exit the BX or Commissary, patrons must now exit near the Commissary gate off the Commissary parking lot if heading toward Texas Avenue or exit at the other end closer to the circle where the old Gate 8 used to be. The middle road (both lanes) is now for incoming traffic **only**. Signs are posted indicating patrons may not exit using the middle road, but approximately 40 percent of those approaching that intersection are exiting through the middle entrance, despite the signs. Please exercise caution when entering and exiting the BX/Commissary parking lots.

Wondering Photographer by Senior Airman Qianna Snooks

Should the United States revive the military draft?



**Staff Sgt.
Athena M.
Walker - LS**

No. Because I think that the last time they instituted the draft it was unfair. This is just my personal opinion, but there seemed to be more stipulations; the lower class or those who were disadvantaged seemed to be the majority of the ones who were picked. It seemed that if you had a lot of money or were in school, you didn't go. There were just too many stipulations. It just didn't seem fair.

**Tech. Sgt.
Barbara A.
Wines - Comm.
Flt.**

I don't think so. I think that retention is now at the forefront with the current state of things, but I don't think that's the answer at this point in time. Getting qualified people who want to serve, rather than people who are forced to serve, is the key.



**Senior Airman Ann
M. McKenzie - CES**

No, because people should be given a choice of what they want to do. And I think there are enough people volunteering, especially with the benefits that the military's offering. People shouldn't be forced to go to war.



**Senior Airman
Adam R.
Santiago -
MXS**

Basically, no. I think that it would create more hardships than we need. I didn't think it helped when they did it in Vietnam.



Technical Sgt. Sebastian Venuto - LS

I have mixed feelings. There are some good things about it and there are some bad things. Sometimes the mixture of people would be better than what you'd usually get. On the other hand, you'd have people who don't want to be in... you may have a very poor quality soldier. If you have a volunteer, you at least know that they want to be there and get the job done.

Front and Center

Name: Noemi Quinones

Rank: Staff Sergeant

Age: 37

Time in Service: 10 years and two months, all with the Air National Guard

Job in 108th: Paralegal; helps with wills, powers of attorney and legal paperwork.

Civilian job: Probation officer and does criminal case management, which involves interviewing inmates during the sentencing process.

Family: I was born and raised in Puerto Rico. Most of my family lives in Newark. My father lives in California.

Favorite food: Spanish yellow rice and chicken with yellow plantains and a salad.

Favorite movie: Gladiator

Favorite actor/actress: Anthony Hopkins

Favorite TV show: New Detective; the Case Studies

Favorite book: Beloved by Toni Morrison

Favorite music group/genre: Spanish Romantic music/ Mark Anthony

Hobbies: I like to read. I like to play pool...the movies and work out.

I most admire: I'd have to say my sister. She's just a strong woman. Strong and intelligent. She manages many things so well. And she's peaceful. She's a go-getter.

Dream vacation: I would love to go to the Galapagos Islands.

Goals: Right now, to finish my Master's, to be successful at my job and to make a difference.

Words I live by: Education is knowledge and knowledge is power.

Pet peeve: Slow pokes in the fast lane.

What were your reasons for joining the military: I really enlisted for the free tuition benefits and the challenge. But I ended up liking it and continued to reenlist.



Posters reflect cultural awareness

By Tech. Sgt. Monica Holder
108th ARW AACAA committee member

Local base school students participated in a Black History Month Poster event sponsored by the African-American Cultural Awareness Association (AACAA) Feb. 10 - 12.

Several grades participated in the event, designed to stimulate the children's cultural awareness and highlight the importance of black history. The students used Team McGuire's theme, "The Ties that Bind, African-Americans Shaping the U.S. Military."

More than 70 toy bears and dolls, donated by the 108th Family Readiness Center, were presented to the children who participated in the poster event.

According to Tiffany Colby, the 108th FRC Program Coordinator, "The Air National Guard believes fostering heritage and cultural awareness in our youth is critical to a healthy nation. The bears and dolls provide the children with a tangible item to help remind them of their role in practicing tolerance and supporting diversity."

108th wins NGB recruiting awards

By Senior Master Sergeant Tony Owens
HQs, Recruiting and Retention Superintendent

The National Guard Bureau recently announced their Regional Recruiting and Retention award winners for the first quarter of fiscal year 2003. Congratulations to the 108th Air Refueling Wing for being selected as the Wing with the Highest Average Accessions. Also, special congratulations go to Master Sgt. Miguel A. Justiniano Jr. for being selected as the Top Recruiter with the Most Accessions.

The National Quarterly Awards program was established by the National Guard Bureau to recognize on a quarterly basis the top performers within their respective regions. The 108th ARW's Recruiting and Retention team competed within Region V, which contains eight states from the northeast region.

Justiniano and the 108ARW Recruiting team will receive their awards at the upcoming National Recruiting and Retention workshop in St. Louis, Mo., later this month. The next time you see one of the recruiters please take the time to acknowledge them for their special achievements.

Fiscal year 2003 promises to be a very challenging year. If the recruiters are to continue their success, they will need your continued support. If you know someone who you think may benefit from membership within the N.J. Air National Guard, simply refer them to the highly motivated recruiting team and let them do the rest. Contact the recruiters at the Military Personnel Flight, Bldg. 3324, or call 1-800-331-1806 to obtain more information.

Hearts Apart Support Group Meeting set for the 108th

The Family Readiness Center and U.S. Family Health Plan will be hosting the first ever 108th ARW Hearts Apart Support Group Meeting. It will be held in the classroom in Bldg. 3369 on Wonnacott Avenue on Saturday, April 12, 1:30-3 p.m. Family and friends of deployed unit members are invited to attend and learn about the programs offered and meet families of other deployed unit members. Light snacks and refreshments will be served. Please R.S.V.P. to Family Readiness at 609-754-4479 by April 9.

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